

BOOK NOTICE

KENNETH D. HEIL, STEVE L. O'KANE, JR., LINDA MARY REEVES, AND ARNOLD CLIFFORD. 2013. **Flora of the Four Corners Region: Vascular Plants of the San Juan River Drainage. Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah.** (ISBN-13: 978-1-930723-84-9, hbk). Missouri Botanical Garden Press, P.O. Box 299, Saint Louis, Missouri 63166-0299, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.mbgpress.info, orders@mbgpress.org, 1-877-271-1930). \$72.00, 1098 pp., 8 1/2" x 11 1/4".

From the Foreword by Peter Raven, President of the Missouri Botanical Garden:

"Certainly, readers of Tony Hillerman's well-appreciated detective stories will appreciate the natural magnificence and geological diversity of the Four Corners region even if they have not had the pleasure of visiting the area personally. The botanical diversity of this region, so well described in this attractive and useful flora, is no less impressive. Clearly, the use of this book will inspire further studies and thus make possible an ever greater depth of knowledge about these plants and their position in the habitats where they occur."

From the publisher:

"The *Flora of the Four Corners* describes all of those species, subspecies, and varieties of vascular plants that grow spontaneously in the drainage basin of the San Juan River, a major tributary of the Colorado River. This region takes in major portions of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah, and is centered on the Four Corners, the only spot in the United States where four states meet at a common point. The entire area encompasses 65,382 square kilometers (25,244 square miles), an area the size of West Virginia or Connecticut and about half the size of Alabama, Arkansas, New York, or North Carolina. The highest point is 4292 m (14,083 feet) at Mt. Eolus in the San Juan Mountains and the lowest point is 1130 m (3708 feet) where the San Juan River flows into Lake Powell (the Colorado River). Because of this elevation gradient, and the varying climates produced by local topography, vegetation in the study area varies from alpine tundra to coniferous forests, mountain shrublands, lowland sagebrush, blackbrush, and to the sparse communities seen on bare rocks and the scorching sides of low-elevation canyons."